



# Kickapoo Social Services

## Spring News Letter 2011

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**Kickapoo Social Services participated in 2 Health Fairs at Kickapoo Nation School and Kickapoo Health Center. We also have updated our program website on Kickapoo Tribal website [ktik-nsn.gov/](http://ktik-nsn.gov/). Please check it out. You just might learn something new.**

**Kickapoo Social Services no longer provides transports as of June 29, 2011. In addition, we have no funds for any financial assistance. This is all due to the cuts in our funding.**

**We also would like everyone to have a safe and fun summer. However, we would like to inform of Domestic Violence. This seems to occur more during the summer months. The information provided below may help you get a better understanding of Domestic Violence.**

***Domestic Violence:** Any abusive, violent, coercive, forceful, or threatening act or word inflicted by one member of a family or household on another can constitute domestic violence. Domestic violence and emotional abuse are behaviors used by one person in a relationship to control the other. Partners may be married, separated, divorced, dating, or living together. Violence can be criminal and include physical assault (hitting, pushing, shoving, etc.), sexual assault (unwanted or forced sexual activity), and stalking. Although emotional, psychological, and financial abuses are not criminal behaviors, they are forms of abuse and can lead to criminal violence.*

**Domestic Violence is commonly known to be against Females. Domestic Violence can happen to Males and Children.**

Types of Abuse:

Denial of Basic Needs

Physical abuse

Sexual abuse

Phone Harassment/Texting

Verbal or nonverbal abuse (psychological abuse, mental abuse, emotional abuse)

Examples:

Actual or threatened physical harm

Intimidation

Name-calling or putdowns

Preventing a partner from contacting family or friends

Sexual assault

Stalking

Stopping a partner from getting or keeping a job

Isolation



**During the summer there seems to be more Child Abuse and Neglect. The information provided below may help you get a better understanding of Child Abuse and Neglect.**



What Is Child Abuse?

"Child abuse" can be defined as causing or permitting any harmful or offensive contact on a child's body; and, any communication or transaction of any kind which humiliates, shames, or frightens the child. Some child development experts go a bit further, and define child abuse as any act or omission, which fails to nurture or in the upbringing of the children.



The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act defines child abuse and neglect as: "at a minimum, any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker, which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm."

A child of any age, sex, race, religion, and socioeconomic background can fall victim to child abuse and neglect.

There are many factors that may contribute to the occurrence of child abuse and neglect. Parents may be more likely to maltreat their children if they abuse drugs or alcohol. Some parents may not be able to cope with the stress resulting from the changes and may experience difficulty in caring for their children.

Major types of child abuse are: Physical Abuse, Emotional Abuse, & Sexual child Abuse, Neglect. (Physical neglect, educational neglect, emotional neglect)



Emotional Abuse: (also known as: verbal abuse, mental abuse, and psychological maltreatment) Includes acts or the failures to act by parents or caretakers that have caused or could cause, serious behavioral, cognitive, emotional, or mental disorders.

This can include parents/caretakers using extreme and/or bizarre forms of punishment, such as confinement in a closet or dark room or being tied to a chair for long periods of time or threatening or terrorizing a child.



Less severe acts, but no less damaging are belittling or rejecting treatment, using derogatory terms to describe the child, habitual scapegoating or blaming.



Neglect: The failure to provide for the child's basic needs. Neglect can be physical, educational, or emotional. Physical neglect can include not providing adequate food or clothing, appropriate medical care, supervision, or proper weather protection (heat or coats). It may include abandonment. Educational neglect includes failure to provide appropriate schooling or special educational needs, allowing excessive truancies. Psychological neglect includes the lack of any emotional support and love, never attending to the child, spousal abuse, and drug and alcohol abuse including allowing the child to participate in drug and alcohol use.

Physical Abuse: The inflicting of physical injury upon a child. This may include, burning, hitting, punching, shaking, kicking, beating, or otherwise harming a child. The parent or caretaker may not have intended to hurt the child; the injury is not an accident. It may,



however, been the result of over-discipline or physical punishment that is inappropriate to the child's age.

**Sexual Abuse:** The inappropriate sexual behavior with a child. It includes fondling a child's genitals, making the child fondle the adult's genitals, intercourse, incest, rape, sodomy, exhibitionism and sexual exploitation. To be considered child abuse these acts have to be committed by a person responsible for the care of a child (for example a baby-sitter, a parent, or a daycare provider) or related to the child. If a stranger commits these acts, it would be considered sexual assault and handled solely by the police and criminal courts.

Commercial or other exploitation of a child refers to use of the child in work or other activities for the benefit of others. This includes, but is not limited to, child labor and child prostitution. These activities are to the detriment of the child's physical or mental health, education, or spiritual, moral or social-emotional development.

**Kickapoo Social Services will investigate All allegations. The findings will be reported to the Kickapoo Tribal Prosecutor and then it is up to the Kickapoo Tribal Prosecutor to pursue the case.**

**Some circumstances require Kickapoo Tribal Law Enforcement to place a child (ren) in Kickapoo Tribal Law Enforcement custody. The child (ren) is then placed in an Emergency Placement.**

**Social Services works with Children and Families when there is suspected abuse, neglect, or sexual abuse. Child (ren) is placed with Native American and Non-Native American Family Members first. If family is not available then child is placed within the Native Community. Additional placements are made with state licensed foster homes.**

**Kickapoo Social Services would like to remind everyone that all reports are kept confidential, which means if you reported to our department, your name will not be known. Our program takes allegations very seriously, whether it is a Domestic/Family Violence, Child Abuse and Neglect, or Adult Abuse report.**

**Kineone noki**

**"see you again"**